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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, claim 17 is canceled. Claims 3, 5-13, 16, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, and 28 are pending.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 16 based on nonstatutory double patenting grounds. The Applicant seeks to overcome this rejection through the submission of Terminal Disclaimers for U.S. Patent Nos. 6,140,315 and 6,099,851 which are submitted herewith. Thus, Claim 16 should be in a condition for allowance.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. The Applicant has cancelled Claim 17.

Claims 3, 5-13, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 27, and 28 were allowed in the Office Action dated April 7, 2003. In that these claims were previously indicated as allowable and were not rejected in the January 28, 2004 Office Action nor have they been cancelled, they should remain in a condition for allowance.

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/089,583 Amendment Dated May 20, 2004 Reply to Office Action of January 28, 2004

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

By

Respectfully submitted,

CAESAR, RIVISE, BERNSTEIN, COHEN & POKOTILOW, LTD.

May 20, 2004

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Please charge or credit our Account No. 03-0075 as necessary to effect entry and/or ensure consideration of this submission.

Kevin A. Keeling

Registration No. 51,867 Customer No. 03000

(215) 567-2010

Attorneys for Applicants